

Appln. No. 10/773,170
Reply to the Official Letter of February 8, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-66 have been canceled. New Claims 67-95 are active in the case.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present invention is a continuation application of parent application Serial No. 09/814,703 filed March 23, 2001, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/825,100.

The cross-reference to related applications has now been corrected to indicate continuation status and not divisional status. Withdrawal of the priority issue is respectfully requested.

The claims of the application have been amended as requested in order to correct the numbering sequence of the claims. Specifically, it should be noted that the cancellation of previously active claims in favor of new claims that are limited to the identical subject matter of the previously active claims is a correct manner of making the necessary changes to the numbering of the claims. When the MPEP at Section 714.20 refers to a prohibition of adding new claims in an Ex parte *Quayle* Action, it is in the context of adding new claims that for the first time introduce new subject matter into the record that previously was not in the claims. Otherwise, the designation of the newly added claims as new claims is both proper and correct. Entry of the new claims into the record is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication of allowable subject matter in the case.

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It is now believed that the application is in proper condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F D Vastine", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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